

# 2020 MONTANA MEDICAL EXAMINER'S REPORT

April 30, 2021



## **OVERVIEW:**

The Montana Medical Examiner's Office (MTMEO) is a bureau within the Montana Department of Justice, Forensic Science Division. It was created in 1980 to provide death investigation resources for county coroners, law enforcement agencies, and county attorneys on behalf of Montana's citizens. Montana is the fourth largest state in the United States, encompassing 147,040 square miles, and has an estimated population of 1,068,778 for 2019. This report summarizes the statistical results of the MTMEO cases performed during the 2020 calendar year.

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## **OUR VISION STATEMENT:**

We strive to create a partnership between Medical Examiners and Coroners to promote the health, well-being, and safety of the citizens of Montana through education, service, and compassionate, professional death investigation.

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## **RECENT PROJECTS COMPLETED:**

The Montana Medical Examiner's office recently completed the following projects and goals:

- Implementation of a Statewide death investigation database, ImageTrend, with the assistance of the State's Department of Health and Human Services
  - Creation of standard operating procedures for the MTMEO
  - Application for NAME accreditation in September 2020; awarded provisional status pending an on-site visit in 2021
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## **CURRENT PROJECTS:**

The Montana Medical Examiner's office is currently focused on the following projects and goals:

- Continue to train coroners and increase usage of ImageTrend, the Statewide death investigation database.
- Actively promote opportunities to continuously improve death investigation and establish more uniform practices among the counties.
- Attain full accreditation through the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) pending on site visit in June 2021.
- Partner in the National Center on Forensics grant through NIJ along with George Mason University, the American Society of Clinical Pathologists, and the National Association of Attorney Generals, which includes establishing a Coroner Liaison position and providing training for medical and pathology students.

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## **SUMMARY OF 2020:**

In 2020 the Montana Medical Examiner's Office employed four forensic pathologists, two autopsy assistants, and three part-time autopsy assistants. Administrative support was provided by the Forensic Science Division. Two pathologists work at the State crime laboratory in Missoula to serve the needs of coroners in western Montana. Two pathologists work at the State morgue facility in Billings to serve the needs of coroners in Eastern Montana. During calendar year 2020 a total of 747 postmortem examinations were performed (Missoula 420, Billings 327). Our pathologists responded to a limited number of scene investigations and recoveries. We provided court testimony and made educational presentations at the annual Montana Coroner Advanced and Basic Coroner trainings. Informational meetings took place with coroners, law enforcement, county attorneys, organ and tissue procurement agencies, and funeral directors. Our chief medical examiner also collaborated with the Montana Department of Emergency Services in developing a COVID-19 response plan, which was submitted to the Governor's Office.

Casework activity increased 13.7% in 2020 from 2019. As with similar trends across the country during the COVID19 pandemic, we experienced a significant increase in activity. We had 69 cases that involved COVID19 status inquiries, of which 18 were confirmed positive. Homicides increased substantially over prior years (see tables below), and we had 31 cases considered in custody deaths, which involve either inmates or deaths occurring in presence of law enforcement.

In September 2020, the MTMEO applied for accreditation for the first time through the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME). It was awarded provisional status pending site visits in June 2021.

Based on recommendations that appear in the Scientific Working Group on Medicolegal Death Investigation (SWGMDI) "an autopsy rate of one per 1000 population might be considered as a best-case scenario formula for ensuring that medicolegal autopsies are performed in numbers that need public health, public safety, justice system, medical quality assurance and other needs." Generally, the need for a postmortem examination (autopsy) in Montana is determined by the county coroner per Title 46, Chapter 4, Part 1 of Montana Code Annotated. NAME inspection data for all offices published in the SWGMDI 2013 report listed an average autopsy rate of 0.5 per 1,000 persons for offices of all types and 0.7 per 1,000 persons in facility surveys. Utilizing our current data, the autopsy rate per 1,000 population in Montana is 6.3% across all counties (2019). Some counties meet or exceed the 1.0 per 1,000 population recommendations

while some counties are below the recommendations. Results by county are listed in Total Autopsies by County table beginning on page 3.

**Montana death investigations are served through a county coroner system with support by the State Medical Examiner's office. The following statistical information represents *only* those cases that coroners delivered for autopsy or examination and cannot encompass all deaths in the State. At the discretion of county coroners, selected suicides, overdoses, traffic fatalities, and well-established natural deaths are not submitted for autopsy.**

The following tables and graphs outline 2020 activity as well as comparisons to prior years:

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### **2020 AUTOPSY CASE TYPES:**

Type	# Cases	% of Total
External	41	7%
Full	660	88%
Partial	35	5%
Skeletal	11	1%
Exhumation	0	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>100%</b>

MTMEO received 10 cases of human remains in 2020 that are unidentified as of report date.

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### **TOTAL AUTOPSIES BY COUNTY:**

Montana consists of 56 counties. Approximately 2/3 of the population resides in the western half of the State, which is served by the Missoula office. The eastern half contains the State's largest city, Billings, with a city population of 109,577 (2019). Vital Statistics does not yet have population and death statistics for 2020.

<b>AUTOPSIES BY COUNTY</b>								
County	2020 Autopsy Count	2019 Autopsy Count	2020 vs 2019 Autopsies	2020 % of Total Autopsies	Number of Deaths 2019*	2019 Autopsies % of Total Deaths	Population (2019)*	2019 Deaths % of Total County Population

Date

Beaverhead	6	1	5	0.8%	86	1.2%	9453	0.9%
Big Horn	32	23	9	4.3%	82	28.0%	13319	0.6%
Blaine	4	4	0	0.5%	43	9.3%	6681	0.6%
Broadwater	11	7	4	1.5%	46	15.2%	6237	0.7%
Butte/SB	21	25	-4	2.8%	434	5.8%	34915	1.2%
Carbon	12	13	-1	1.6%	78	16.7%	10725	0.7%
Carter		1	-1	0.0%	13	7.7%	1252	1.0%
Cascade	38	26	12	5.1%	1038	2.5%	81366	1.3%
Chouteau		0	0	0.0%	31	0.0%	5635	0.6%
Custer	3	5	-2	0.4%	123	4.1%	11402	1.1%
Daniels	1	0	1	0.1%	16	0.0%	1690	0.9%
Dawson	2	4	-2	0.3%	73	5.5%	8613	0.8%
Deer Lodge	15	6	9	2.0%	98	6.1%	9140	1.1%
Fallon	1	0	1	0.1%	28	0.0%	2846	1.0%
Fergus	16	10	6	2.1%	146	6.8%	11050	1.3%
Flathead	67	43	24	9.0%	1049	4.1%	103806	1.0%
Gallatin	31	32	-1	4.1%	607	5.3%	114434	0.5%
Garfield	1	0	1	0.1%	9	0.0%	1258	0.7%
Glacier	20	15	5	2.7%	96	15.6%	13753	0.7%
Golden Valley	5	1	4	0.7%	2	50.0%	821	0.2%
Granite	4	1	3	0.5%	29	3.4%	3379	0.9%
Hill	4	8	-4	0.5%	145	5.5%	16484	0.9%
Jefferson	8	2	6	1.1%	73	2.7%	12221	0.6%
Judith Basin	3	0	3	0.4%	11	0.0%	2007	0.5%
Lake	38	43	-5	5.1%	272	15.8%	30458	0.9%
Lewis & Clark	19	41	-22	2.5%	697	5.9%	69432	1.0%
Liberty	2	0	2	0.3%	11	0.0%	2337	0.5%
Lincoln	5	9	-4	0.7%	199	4.5%	19980	1.0%
Madison	4	2	2	0.5%	97	2.1%	8600	1.1%
McCone	0	0	0	0.0%	15	0.0%	1664	0.9%
Meagher	0	1	-1	0.0%	16	6.3%	1862	0.9%
Mineral	2	5	-3	0.3%	44	11.4%	4397	1.0%
Missoula	68	61	7	9.1%	1144	5.3%	119600	1.0%
Musselshell	5	3	2	0.7%	36	8.3%	4633	0.8%
Park	7	11	-4	0.9%	154	7.1%	16606	0.9%
Petroleum	0	1	-1	0.0%	4	25.0%	487	0.8%
Phillips	3	4	-1	0.4%	51	7.8%	3954	1.3%
Pondera	2	0	2	0.3%	55	0.0%	5911	0.9%
Powder River	1	0	1	0.1%	14	0.0%	1682	0.8%
Powell	9	8	1	1.2%	75	10.7%	6890	1.1%
Prairie	0	0	0	0.0%	16	0.0%	1077	1.5%

Date



Ravalli	36	33	3	4.8%	409	8.1%	43806	0.9%
Richland	4	10	-6	0.5%	82	12.2%	10803	0.8%
Roosevelt	14	18	-4	1.9%	106	17.0%	11004	1.0%
Rosebud	13	5	8	1.7%	61	8.2%	8937	0.7%
Sanders	7	4	3	0.9%	123	3.3%	12113	1.0%
Sheridan	2	2	0	0.3%	43	4.7%	3309	1.3%
Stillwater	12	4	8	1.6%	56	7.1%	9642	0.6%
Sweet Grass	7	0	7	0.9%	31	0.0%	3737	0.8%
Teton	2	2	0	0.3%	44	4.5%	6147	0.7%
Toole	4	3	1	0.5%	32	9.4%	4736	0.7%
Treasure	0	0	0	0.0%	2	0.0%	696	0.3%
Valley	2	6	-4	0.3%	88	6.8%	7396	1.2%
Wheatland	2	2	0	0.3%	21	9.5%	2126	1.0%
Wibaux	0	1	-1	0.0%	15	6.7%	969	1.5%
Yellowstone	156	139	17	20.9%	2064	6.7%	161300	1.3%
Hospital/Out of State/Other	16	12	4	2.1%	2			
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>10435</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>1,068,778</b>	<b>1.0%</b>

\*Source: Montana Vital Records, most recent confirmed numbers

## MANNER OF DEATH:

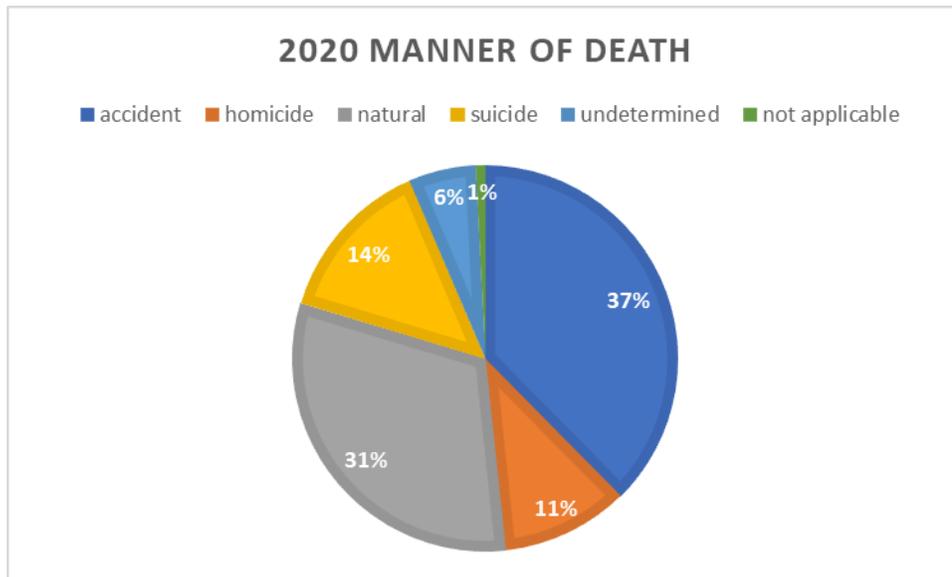
Manner is used to distinguish whether a death is considered natural or unnatural. If deemed unnatural, the death is typically categorized as either accident, suicide, homicide, or in the absence of a clear result, undetermined.

## **AUTOPSIES BY MANNER:**

MANNER	COUNT	% OF TOTAL
ACCIDENT	281	38%
HOMICIDE	80	11%
NATURAL	230	31%
SUICIDE	104	14%
UNDETERMINED	43	6%
NOT APPLICABLE*	9	1%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*includes brain donations for research and skeletal remains (including some non-human)

Date

**GENDER DETAILS:**

GENDER	COUNT	% OF TOTAL	2019 Population	Per 10,000 Population
Female	226	30%	530,712	4.3
Male	509	68%	538,066	9.5
Non-Human	4	0%	-	-
Unknown	8	1%	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,068,778</b>	<b>7.0</b>

<b>2020 MANNER BY GENDER</b>				
MANNER	MALE	FEMALE	TRANSGENDER	UNKNOWN
ACCIDENT	195	86	-	-
HOMICIDE	62	18	-	-
NATURAL	155	79	-	-
SUICIDE	74	30	-	-
UNDETERMINED	21	13	-	7
NOT APPLICABLE	2	-	-	5
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>% OF TOTAL</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>2%</b>

**ANCESTRY:**

Based upon Montana's Census and Economic Information Center, the following ancestry groups comprise Montana's population in 2019: Caucasian 87.4%, Native American 7.3%, Hispanic 3.2%, Asian/Pacific Islander 1.1%, and Black/African American 1%.

Although comprising 12.6% of the population, Non-Caucasian citizens accounted for 37% of homicides, 16% of autopsied suicides, 20% of autopsied accidents, and 18% of autopsied overdoses in 2020. The homicide rate for Native Americans in 2020 **doubled** from prior year and accounted for 31% of the homicides. In addition, and significantly, for deaths of children and youth under 20 years, Non-Caucasians represented 33% of the total cases.

2019 Population Data		
Type	Population	% of Total
Caucasion	933,841	87.4%
Native American	77,993	7.3%
Black	10,632	1.0%
Asian	12,224	1.1%
Hispanic	34,088	3.2%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,068,778</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Source: MT Dept of Commerce CEIC		

**AUTOPSY TOTALS BY ANCESTRY:**

ANCESTRY	# OF CASES	% OF TOTAL
Hispanic	10	1.3%
Unknown	9	1.2%
Native American/Alaskan	131	17.5%
Caucasian	576	77.1%
Asian	7	.9%
Black	8	1.1%
Mixed	1	<1%
Non-Human (skeletal)	4	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>100%</b>

**ANCESTRY BY SELECTED MANNER:**

<b>Ancestry</b>	<b>Accident</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Homicide</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Suicide</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Overdose</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Caucasian	222	79%	51	64%	87	84%	95	82%
Black	3	1%	2	3%	1	<1%	2	2%
Hispanic	3	1%	2	3%	2	2%	3	3%
Native American	49	17%	25	31%	13	13%	14	12%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	1%	0	0%	1	<1%	2	2%
Mixed	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>100%</b>

**HOMICIDES PER 10,000 POPULATION BY ANCESTRY:**

<b>Ancestry</b>	<b>Homicide</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Per 10,000 Population</b>
Caucasian	51	64%	0.5
Black	2	3%	1.9
Hispanic	2	3%	0.6
Native American	25	31%	3.2
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0.7</b>

**INFANT (2 YEARS OR LESS) DEATHS PER 10,000 POPULATION BY ANCESTRY:**

<b>Ancestry</b>	<b># of Cases</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Per 10,000 Population</b>
Caucasian	19	63%	6.7
Mixed	1	3%	
Black	1	3%	15.2
Native American	9	30%	19.9
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100%</b>	

**CHILD UNDER 20 DEATHS PER 10,000 POPULATION BY ANCESTRY:**

Ancestry	# of cases	% of Total	Per 10,000 Population
Caucasian	46	67%	2.2
Native American	17	25%	5.5
Asian	2	3%	7.6
Black	2	3%	4.5
Mixed	2	2%	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>100%</b>	

**2020 CASE ANCESTRY BY COUNTY FOR TOP COUNTIES:**

County	# of Cases	% of Total Cases	Caucasian	Native American	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Mixed	Unknown
Yellowstone	156	20.9%	117	25	2	5	5		2
Missoula	68	9.1%	58	7		1	1		1
Flathead	67	9.0%	62	3					2
Cascade	38	5.1%	31	6				1	
Lake	38	5.1%	26	11					1
Ravalli	36	4.8%	33	1	1	1			
Big Horn	32	4.3%	11	21					
Gallatin	31	4.1%	27		3		1		
Butte - Silver Bow	21	2.8%	21						
Glacier	20	2.7%	1	19					
Lewis & Clark	19	2.5%	17	1				1	
Fergus	16	2.1%	16						
Deer Lodge	15	2.0%	14				1		
Roosevelt	14	1.9%	1	13					
Rosebud	13	1.7%	2	11					
Carbon	12	1.6%	11	1					
Stillwater	12	1.6%	12						
<b>Total</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>

**AGE RANGES OF DECEDENTS BY MANNER:**

AGE	MANNER	# OF CASES	% OF 743 (HUMAN) CASES
Infants</=2 years	Accident	6	
	Homicide	3	
	Natural	7	
	Undetermined	14	
			<b>30</b>
Child 3-12	Accident	5	
	Homicide	4	
	Suicide	1	
	Undetermined	1	
			<b>11</b>
Teen 13-19	Accident	12	
	Homicide	6	
	Natural	1	
	Suicide	7	
	Undetermined	2	
			<b>28</b>
Adult 20-65	Accident	229	
	Homicide	65	
	Natural	187	
	Suicide	78	
	Undetermined	14	
	Research	1	
			<b>574</b>
Adult Senior 66+	Accident	29	
	Homicide	2	
	Natural	35	
	Suicide	18	
	Research	3	
	Undetermined	3	
		<b>90</b>	<b>12%</b>
Unknown Age	Undetermined	10	
		<b>10</b>	<b>1%</b>

## **DEATHS ATTRIBUTABLE TO ALCOHOL OR DRUG INTOXICATION:**

Medical Examiners performed 747 autopsies in death investigation cases. The toxicology section would have performed testing on most those cases. It was determined that 167 of those cases had toxicology results of significance. Below is a breakdown of the identified substances and corresponding drug results. *The data below does not include deaths where the coroner did not have an autopsy performed.*

<b>Toxicology Related Case Breakdown by Cause of Death (Autopsied cases only)</b>		
<b>Cause of Death</b>	<b># of cases</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Acute Ethanol Intoxication	10	
Complications of chronic ethanol use	41	----
Acute, Single Drug Intoxication		
1. Methamphetamine	28	33% increase in acute deaths over 2019
2. Heroin	4	Decrease from 9 heroin-only cases in 2019
3. Fentanyl	5	Only 1 fentanyl only OD in 2019
4. Oxycodone	2	
5. Methadone	1	
6. Mitragynine	2	
7. Cocaine	2	
8. MDMA	1	
9. Bupropion	1	Suicide
10. Citalopram	1	Suicide
11. Doxipin	1	Suicide
12. Doxylamine	1	Suicide
13. Ethylene Glycol	1	Suicide
Acute, Poly-Drug Combinations	65	<i>Some cases may fall into multiple categories</i>  Methamphetamine found in 26 cases Heroin use found in 22 cases Fentanyl found in 19 cases Methamphetamine and Heroin combo in 16 cases Methamphetamine and Fentanyl combo in 8 cases Oxycodone found in 6 cases Hydrocodone found in 3 cases Methadone found in 2 cases Mitragynine found in 6 cases (3 combined with Heroin or Fentanyl) Gabapentin found in 8 cases
Inhalant Intoxication	1	1,1-Difluoroethane

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**OVERDOSE DEATHS BY COUNTY- TOP 10\***

COUNTY	# OF CASES	% OF TOTAL
Yellowstone	25	22%
Cascade	12	10%
Missoula	11	9%
Flathead	10	9%
Butte	8	7%
Ravalli	6	5%
Deer Lodge	5	4%
Fergus	4	3%
Gallatin	4	3%
Glacier	4	3%

\*Carbon monoxide cases not included

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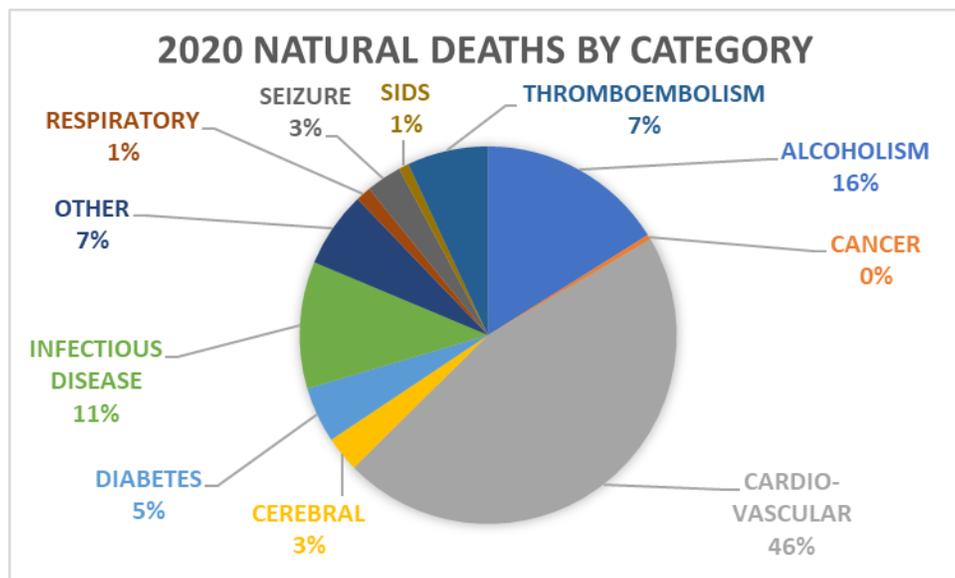
**SUICIDES AND HOMICIDES ATTRIBUTABLE TO FIREARMS:**

In 2020, 56% of the homicide cases, 60% of the autopsied suicides, and 15% of all MTMEO casework involved a firearm.

MANNER	# OF CASES
Homicide	45
Suicide	62
Undetermined	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>110</b>
% OF TOTAL CASES	15%

**NATURAL DEATHS BY CATEGORY:**

CATEGORY	# OF CASES
ALCOHOLISM	37
CANCER	1
CARDIO-VASCULAR	106
CEREBRAL	7
DIABETES	11
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	25
OTHER	15
RESPIRATORY	3
SEIZURE	7
SIDS	2
THROMBOEMBOLISM	16
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>230</b>
% OF TOTAL CASES	31%



### **2020 TURN-AROUND TIMES:**

Turn-Around Time represents the number of days between the postmortem examination and the completion of the autopsy report. 69% of our reports in 2020 were completed within 90 days. MTMEO had a vacant medical examiner position for much of 2020, which resulted in longer turn-around times in our Billings location. Our goal is to complete 90% of our cases in 90 days.

LESS THAN 60	248	33%
60-90	267	36%
91-120	104	14%
OVER 120	128	17%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>100%</b>

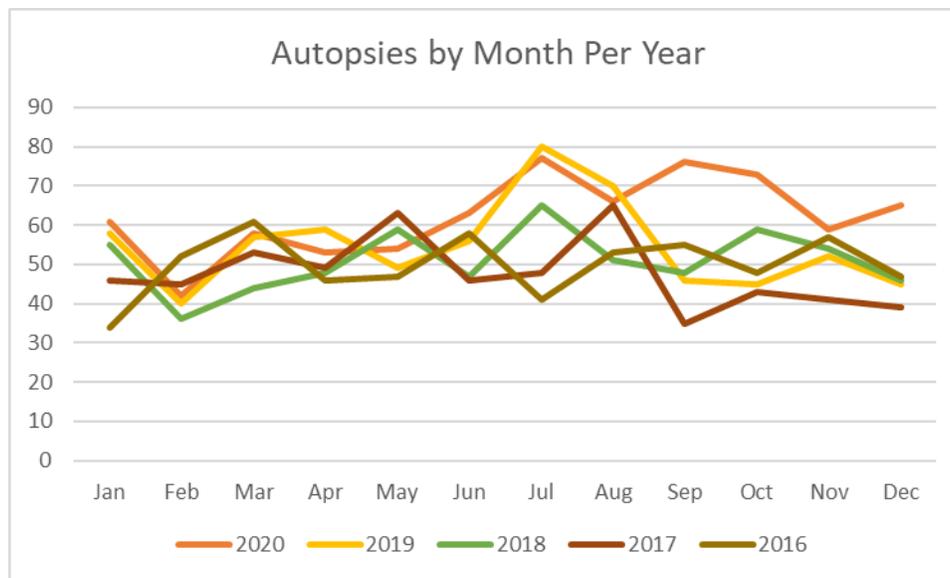
### **FIVE YEAR TRENDS (2016-2020)**

The Montana State Medical Examiner's office initiated a process to maintain better statistical information beginning in 2015. We have now completed 5 years with which we can make annual comparisons and watch for trends. Again, these comparisons are only based on the cases submitted to the office and not all investigated deaths in the State.

<b>AUTOPSIES BY TYPE PER YEAR</b>					
<b>Type</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Full	660	570	546	530	540
Partial	35	28	20	15	12
External	41	47	37	22	37
Skeletal	11	11	8	7	10
Disinterred	0	0	0	1	0
Coroner Case Review	0	1	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL CASES</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>599</b>

**AUTOPSIES BY MONTH PER YEAR:**

Month	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	61	58	55	46	34
Feb	42	40	36	45	52
Mar	58	57	44	53	61
Apr	53	59	48	49	46
May	54	49	59	63	47
Jun	63	56	47	46	58
Jul	77	80	65	48	41
Aug	66	70	51	65	53
Sep	76	46	48	35	55
Oct	73	45	59	43	48
Nov	59	52	54	41	57
Dec	65	45	46	39	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>599</b>

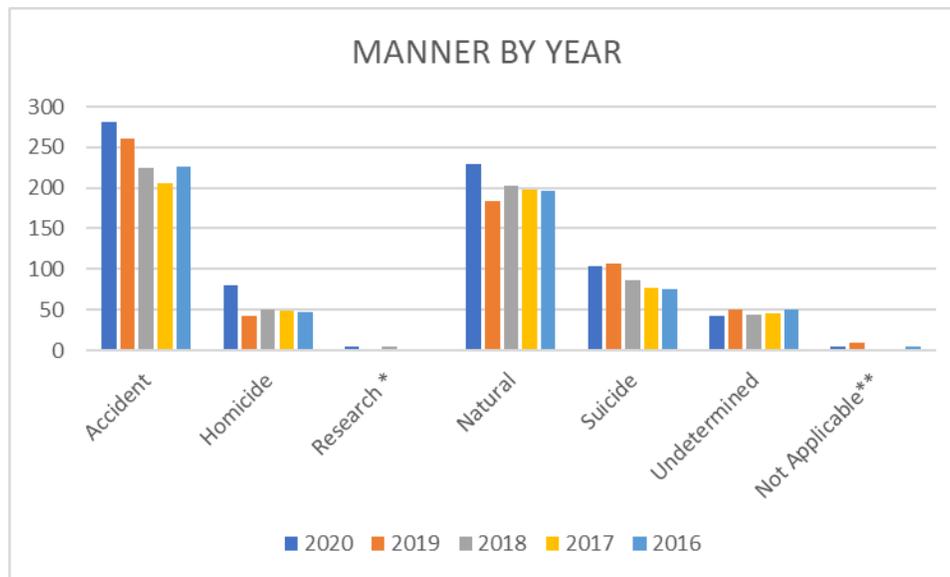


**MANNER OF DEATH BY YEAR:**

<b>MANNER</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Accident	281	261	225	205	226
Homicide	80	43	50	49	47
Research *	4	2	4	1	
Natural	230	183	202	198	197
Suicide	104	107	87	77	75
Undetermined	43	51	44	45	50
Not Applicable**	5	10			4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>599</b>

\*Brain Removals

\*\*Skeletal human and non-human remains



**DEATHS UNDER 20 YEARS BY MANNER:**

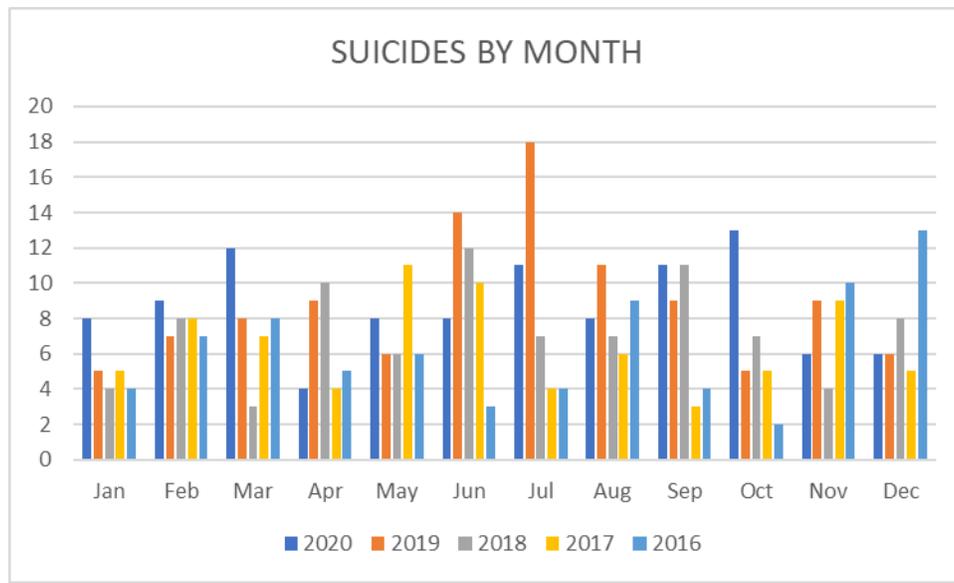
AGE	MANNER	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Infants<+2 years	Accident	6	4	4	4	7
	Homicide	3	4	3	5	6
	Natural	7	2	3	5	5
	Undetermined	14	18	13	16	15
Child 3-12	Accident	5	3	7	3	4
	Homicide	4	2	1	0	3
	Natural	0	4	2	0	2
	Undetermined	1	1	2	0	0
	Suicide	1	0	0	0	1
Teen 13-19	Accident	12	12	11	4	12
	Homicide	6	2	0	1	3
	Natural	1	3	5	3	2
	Suicide	7	11	6	5	3
	Undetermined	2	1	2	2	0
<b>Grand Totals</b>		<b>69</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>63</b>

**FIREARM DEATHS BY MANNER BY YEAR**

MANNER	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Accident	1	2			
Homicide	45	30	24	25	25
Suicide	62	65	48	51	46
Undetermined	3	1	1	3	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>74</b>
% OF TOTAL CASES	15%	14%	12%	14%	12%

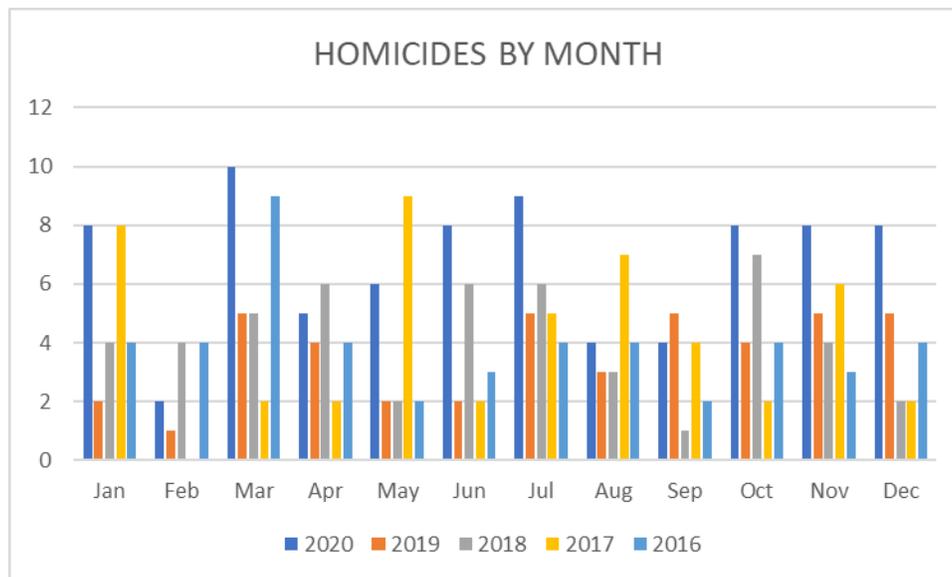
**SUICIDES BY MONTH PER YEAR:**

Month	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	8	5	4	5	4
Feb	9	7	8	8	7
Mar	12	8	3	7	8
Apr	4	9	10	4	5
May	8	6	6	11	6
Jun	8	14	12	10	3
Jul	11	18	7	4	4
Aug	8	11	7	6	9
Sep	11	9	11	3	4
Oct	13	5	7	5	2
Nov	6	9	4	9	10
Dec	6	6	8	5	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>75</b>



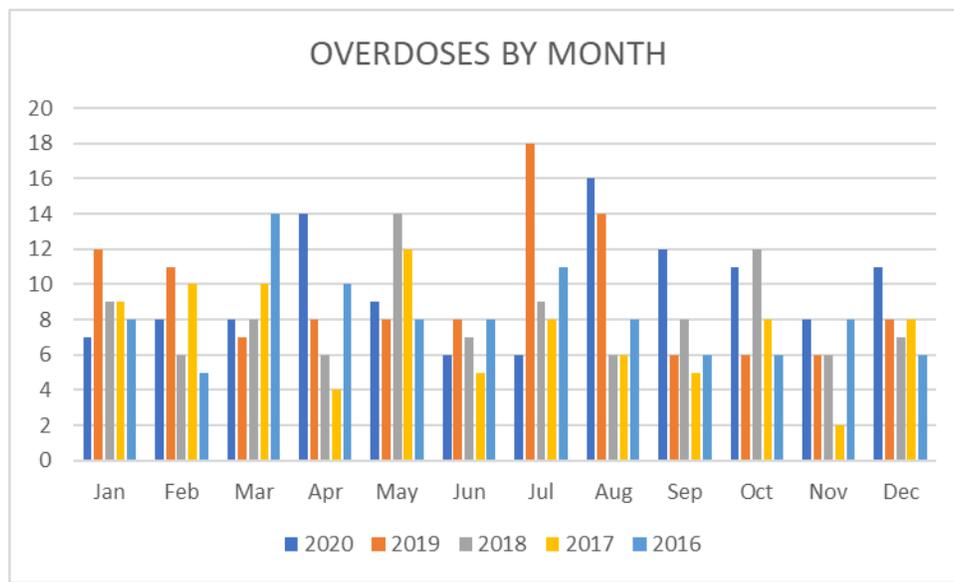
**HOMICIDES BY MONTH PER YEAR:**

Month	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	8	2	4	8	4
Feb	2	1	4	0	4
Mar	10	5	5	2	9
Apr	5	4	6	2	4
May	6	2	2	9	2
Jun	8	2	6	2	3
Jul	9	5	6	5	4
Aug	4	3	3	7	4
Sep	4	5	1	4	2
Oct	8	4	7	2	4
Nov	8	5	4	6	3
Dec	8	5	2	2	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>47</b>



**OVERDOSE DEATHS BY MONTH PER YEAR:**

Month	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Jan	7	12	9	9	8
Feb	8	11	6	10	5
Mar	8	7	8	10	14
Apr	14	8	6	4	10
May	9	8	14	12	8
Jun	6	8	7	5	8
Jul	6	18	9	8	11
Aug	16	14	6	6	8
Sep	12	6	8	5	6
Oct	11	6	12	8	6
Nov	8	6	6	2	8
Dec	11	8	7	8	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>98</b>



**OVERDOSE DEATHS BY COUNTY PER YEAR-TOP 10 COUNTIES:**

COUNTY	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Yellowstone	25	31	23	22	18
Cascade	12	12	9	3	5
Missoula	11	10	11	11	14
Gallatin	4	7	3	7	2
Butte	8	6	6	3	10
Flathead	10	6	9	6	12
Lewis & Clark	2	6	6	8	7
Lake	2	5	2	5	3
Glacier	4	4	2	2	3
Ravalli	6	4	7	4	3

**HOMICIDE DEATHS BY COUNTY PER YEAR**

COUNTY	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Beaverhead	2				
Big Horn	2		1	6	2
Broadwater		1		1	
Butte/Silver Bow	1				4
Carter				1	
Carbon	1		1		4
Cascade	3	6	5	8	5
Chouteau					1
Custer		1	1		
Dawson				1	
Deer Lodge	1		1	1	1
Fergus	1				
Flathead	7	4	4	1	2
Gallatin	1	3	1	3	4
Glacier	5		2	3	1
Granite					1
Hill		2	1		1
Jefferson				1	
Lake	5	3	2	1	1
Lewis & Clark	1	2	5	3	4
Liberty					1
Lincoln	1	2		2	2

Madison	1	1			
Missoula	10	3	5	5	1
Musselshell					1
Park					2
Phillips			1		1
Pondera			1		
Powell		1			
Ravalli	6	1		1	
Richland		2			1
Roosevelt	4		1	2	4
Rosebud	4		1		2
Sanders	2		2	1	
Stillwater	1				
Sweetgrass	1				
Toole		2			
Valley			1		
Yellowstone	20	9	14	8	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>47</b>

### SUICIDE DEATHS BY COUNTY PER YEAR

COUNTY	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Beaverhead			1		2
Big Horn	4	2	4	1	1
Blaine		1			
Broadwater	1	2	1		
Butte/SilverBow	3	3		1	6
Carbon	1	4	1		
Carter				1	
Cascade	3	1	3	4	4
Chouteau					1
Custer	1				1
Daniels				1	1
Dawson		1	2		
Deer Lodge	4	2	1	3	1
Fallon					1
Fergus	4	1		1	
Flathead	9	7	4	4	3
Gallatin	2	7	3	2	2
Garfield	1				

<b>Glacier</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Golden Valley</b>	<b>1</b>				
<b>Granite</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Hill</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Jefferson</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>			
<b>Lake</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Lewis &amp; Clark</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>1</b>				
<b>Liberty</b>					<b>1</b>
<b>Madison</b>		<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	
<b>Mineral</b>				<b>1</b>	
<b>Missoula</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Musselshell</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Park</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Powell</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>		
<b>Prairie</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Ravalli</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Richland</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>			
<b>Roosevelt</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Rosebud</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Sanders</b>	<b>2</b>			<b>2</b>	
<b>Sheridan</b>		<b>1</b>			
<b>Stillwater</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Sweetgrass</b>	<b>1</b>				<b>1</b>
<b>Toole</b>					<b>3</b>
<b>Wheatland</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Yellowstone</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>75</b>

Questions or inquiries regarding the information provided in this report can be addressed by contacting our main office at:

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Date